THE Unequal Unyoked, AND The Equal Yoked, AND *Light* ſeparated from *Darkneſs*, & *Darkneſs* and *Blindneſs* joyn'd together.

In Anſwer to a Paper that would joyn together *Truth* and *Untruth*, the *true Worſhip* and the *falſe*.

And here it is diſcovered, and the Author thereof in part rewarded, by joyning him juſtly to thoſe he unjuſtly joyned others to.

By a Lover of Juſtice and Equity, and Hater of the Contrary,

PETER PRICE.

Her Prieſts have violated my Law, and have prophaned my holy things; and have put no difference between the Holy and the Prophane; neither have they ſhewed difference between the Unclean and the Clean, and have hid their Eyes from my Sabbaths, and I am prophaned among them, Ezek. 22. 26.

And as Troops of Robbers wait for a Man, ſo the Company of Prieſts Murder in the way by conſent, for they commit Lewdneſs, Hoſea 6. 9.

London, Printed and Sold by *Andrew Sowle* at the Crooked-Billet in *Holloway-Lane* in *Shoreditch*, 1683.

THE
Unequal Unyoked,
AND
The Equal Poised,
AND
Light separated from Darkness, & Darkness and Blindness joyn'd together.

In Answer to a Paper that would joyn together Truth and Untruth, the true Worship and the false.

And here it is discovered, and the Author thereof in part rewarded, by joyning him justly to those he unjustly joyned others to.

By a Lover of Justice and Equity, and Hater of the Contrary,
PETER PRICE.

Lewdon, Printed and Sold by Andrew Sowle at the Crooked Billet in Holloway-Lane in Shoreditch, 1683.

The Unequal unyoked and the Equal yoked, &c.

THere came a Paper to my hands, from a Bishop, as I am credibly informed, and I have strong Reasons to believe that it came from his hand, or some of his Priestly Generation. 1st, Because the Comparisons came not from the Spirit of God, but from a Darkniss, who is ignorant of the Truth of God, that did not see the difference between us and his Father, the Pope: 2dly, It is plainly seen, that it came from a malicious Heart, that would have a suffering peaceable People still to suffer, and so doth joyn with the Oppressors to oppress the Oppressed; and thus he saith;

That any man may see and discover how near Quakers *and* Papists *are in Opinion, let them read these following Comparisons of the one to the other.*

1. Quakers *claim the Spirit to Infallibility, so doth* Pope *and* Papists.

Answ. The Spirit of God is Infallible, which we do own and possess; and wouldst thou have us to deny the Spirit of God to be what we know it to be, because Papists, as thou sayst, do own it so to be? It is clearly seen that thou art a stranger to the Spirit of God, who wouldst have it to be fallible; and not only so, but also any Enemy to it, that would undervalue the unchangeable and infallible Spirit of God. *Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his,* Rom. 4. 9. and verse. 11. *He that raised up Christ from the dead, shall also quicken your mortal Bodies, by his Spirit that dwelleth in you*; and verse. 15. *But ye have received the Spirit of Adoption.* The People of God in all Ages had (and now have) the Spirit of God to be their Teacher, Counsellor and Instructor in all things, and it is given to every man to profit withal; and if we cannot claim title to the Spirit of Infallibility, what benefit may we expect from that which is given to fail, to change or to alter? But the fallible deceivable Spirit doth enquire after large Livings, great Wages, and

most Hire, Benefit and worldly Riches to enjoy; and this is an earthly, worldly, selfish, greedy, covetous Spirit, which ever was (and now is) against the Spirit of God, and all those that were (and are) led by it. This is the Wolfs devouring Spirit, that casteth to Prison, and devoureth the goods of them that cannot feed it: *Behold the Devil shall cast some of you into Prison*, Rev. 2. 10.

2. Quakers *make themselves the sole Church*, *so* Papists.

Answ. Here we are falsly accused; for we do not make our selves the sole Church; for what we are is of the Lord, and not of our selves, and he hath made us Members of his Church, *and the Lord added to the Church daily such as should be saved*, Acts 2. 47. *The Church is the Body of Christ*, Col. 1. 24. And we could not make our selves the Body of Christ, the Body must be like the Head; for by him they are redeemed out of the Sins, which the World doth live in; for they, by Christ their Head, are washed, cleansed, purified, fitted and prepared for himself to dwell therein. These, and such as these, are the Church of God.

3. Quakers *hold no Salvation, but in their Meetings*, *so do* Papists, *but in their Communion.*

Answ. Here we are again falsly accused, for we hold Salvation no where else but only in and through Jesus Christ, the Son of the living everlasting God.

4. Quakers *are Recusants*, *so* Papists.

Answ. How now, Bishop and Priest! (I speak to them only that are guilty) would you now make us Recusants because we cannot feed your greedy Bellies, nor maintain you in your Pride and Covetousness? we dare not feed that which Christ came to destroy, the which would destroy Christ in his Members.

5. Quakers *deny Bishops to be* jure divino, *so* Papists, *witness the Council of* Trent.

Answ. We do deny you to be what you are not, and we do own you to be what you are; for we wrestle not against Flesh and Blood, but against Principalities, against Powers, against the Rulers of the Darkness of this World, against spiritual Wickedness in high places (as they did) *Ephes.* 6. 12. Your *jure divino* is your spiritual Wickness in high places. Come down exalted boasted Selfishness; the everlasting Bishop we own, and those that are called and chosen by him, are also by him

him made divine, and he is his right to overlook the Soul; but you that covet after filthy Lucre we deny.

6. Quakers *are of rebellious Tenets, so* Papists.

Answ. Let all People that are not defiled with Tythes, judge who are most quarrelsom, troublesom, burdensom, and whose Tenets are most Rebellious against all appearance of Godliness, and who are bad Examples, you or us? As the high Priests did stir the Magistrates and People against Christ Jesus and his followers, perswading the People, that he did those mighty Works which he did through *Belzebub*, & that his followers were movers of Sedition, and turners of the World up-side down. So likewise this man, who is one in Enmity and Malice, with his Predecessors (the high-Priests) hath falsly belyed us, expecting thereby to stir Persecution against us; so his envious Spirit is seen and judged.

7. Quakers, *as they piece up the Word of God by wild Fancies, pretended Revelations, so* Papists *by Traditions.*

Answ. The Word of God thou knowest not, which cannot be pieced, broken, changed or altered; thou dost better know how to compel the People to maintain thee (whilst thou hast the Magistrates on thy side) than to speak of things that are too high for the Nature thou art in; but *the Natural man perceiveth not the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness unto him; neither can he know them, for they are spiritually discerned.* 1 Cor. 2. 14.

8. Quakers *are against Common-Prayer, so* Papists.

Answ. Thou who art sensual, it is, that needest the Common-Prayer, who hast not the Spirit of God to pray by, which the holy men of God had to teach them to pray, and to declare the things revealed to them by the Spirit of God.

9. Quakers *for nothing in the Bible but what serves their turns, so* Papists *for* Latine, *which the Vulgar cannot understand.*

Answ. We are for what the Scriptures are for (and it doth all serve our turn) and against what the Scriptures are against; they are against Hirelings that run for their Wages, and against all manner of Ungodliness, and so are We; yet all doth make for us, (which came from the Spirit of Truth) and against you, from the beginning of *Genesis* to the end of the *Revelations*; there-

here we cannot mislike any part of the Scripture of Truth; for they were declared by the Spirit, which is our Teacher.

10. Quakers, *they alone Godly*, so Papists, *Holiness of Life, being one of the Marks of their Church.*

Answ. It seems, by these thy Comparisons, that thou dost disallow of *Godliness*, and that the Marks of thy Church is *Wickedness*; and it is true, for what manner of Wickedness, that can be thought of, but is committed among you, who call your selves the *Church of England, the miserable Sinners, without Health in you?* witness your general Confession.

11. Quakers *will be judged by no man*, so Papists.

Answ. The Worldly, Earthly, Natural, Selfish-minded man is not to judge any; but he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man, 1 Cor. 2. 15.

12. Quakers *have been of our* Liturgy, so Papists.

Answ. It is true, we have been too long in the ungodly Life, (where still you are) and then you did love us, but since we came out of that Life to lead a godly Life, and to testifie against that Life (which we did, and which you do, to this day live in) then did you hate us, persecute us, and speak Evil of us; read *Ephes.* 2. v. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. and there is may be seen what we were, and what we are, according to the operation of the same Grace.

13. Quakers *would have no Secular Power for Clergy*, so Papists.

Answ. Poor man! thou having not the Wisdom and Power which is of God, art in the Wisdom which is foolishness with God; read 1 *Cor.* 1. from *vers.* 17. to the end, and thou shalt or mayst see what your Wisdom, Power and Glory is, and what it will be made of. In the 5th Comparison thou wouldst be *jure divino*, and here secular Power; it seems, the Honour that hath an end, and the corrupt Riches, your hearts are fixed upon, and the more you have, the more you desire to have; so that nothing can satisfie your greedy Hearts, like your greedy unholy Father, the Pope, who would have all Power to himself.

14. Quakers *will propagate Religion by the Sword, when able*, so Antichrist *and* Mahumet.

Answ. Here thou hast not yoked us with *Pope* and *Papists*, but with *Antichrist* and *Mahumet*; it seems thou hast better thoughts

of

of *Papists*, than that they will fight for their Religion, or elſe thou wouldſt have put them in with us in this, as well as in all the reſt of thy falſe Accuſations: In this thy cruel Envy and bitter Malice towards us, more than any other People, is made manifeſt, and in thee this Scripture fulfilled, but as then, *he that was born after the Fleſh, perſecuted him that was born after the Spirit*, even ſo it is now, *Gal.* 4. 29. The Enmity is againſt the Seed begotten of God, and in time he will clear the Innocency of his ſuffering peaceable People: If we had relied or had any thoughts of putting our Truſt in outward Weapons, or in the ſtrength of man, we had been by men deſtroyed before now; but the living Lord God, the King of all Kings, the Judge of all Judges, the Biſhop of our Souls, he is on our ſide, he is our only Strength, Keeper, Preſerver and Redeemer, our Teacher, Counſellor and Inſtructor; he doth lead us, and we are the Lamb's Followers, and he doth own us to be his People, and the Sheep of his Paſture; ſo that we fear not what the uncircumciſed in heart and ears can do to us; for before our Father, who hath begotten us from amongſt you, muſt you all ſtand and appear, and he will judge you according to what you do againſt his Children, except in time you will Repent.

15. Quakers *pretend Miracles, elſe why do they decry humane means of Learning? ſo* Papiſts.

Anſw. Miracles done by Chriſt were not believed by an envious perſecuting Generation, even ſo it is now; and we are for Learning, and do keep our Children at Schools, but we are againſt all that make bad uſe of their Learning, and by it come to be burdenſom to others, and make themſelves more like *Luciſer*, than if they had been without it: We are not againſt any good thing, but againſt making a bad uſe of any thing that is good.

16. Quakers *they are Martyrs, when puniſhed for Faction, Sedition and Separation; ſo* Papiſts, *puniſhed for Treaſon.*

Anſw. Here again we are falſly accuſed, for *Faction* and *Sedition* we deny, and it could not be proved againſt us, neither were we puniſhed for it, neither can any of you truly make it appear, that we are *Factious* or *Seditious*; but as to the word [*Separation*] I confeſs that we are ſeparated from your ungodly Lives, unprofitable Ceremonies and unfruitful Meetings, and have our Meetings and

Worſhip

Worship in the Spirit and living Truth of God, and in this we do rejoyce, and to this I would have you all to come, that with us you may partake of the spiritual Virtue that we enjoy, and is not known but to the Birth begotten of God, which only hath right to call God Father, and is hidden from that Nature that ravens for Hire and Wages, and not to gain Souls to Christ.

Here thy Comparisons are answered, and thy foolish Malice made manifest, and that which thou wouldst cast upon us, (undeserved) returned to thee and them, according to your Deserts, as followeth;

1. *Bishop* and *Priest* having not the Infallible Spirit of God, (as some of them confess) do gather and come together by sound of Bells, so *Pope* and *Papists*.

2. *Bishop* and *Priest* do feed the People with what men command them, so *Papists*.

3. *Bishop* and *Priest* do cast a little Water on Childrens heads and the sign of the Cross, to make them Christians, so *Papists*.

4. *Bishop* and *Priest* are set at work by men, and receive their Wages from men, so *Papists*.

5. *Bishop* and *Priest* have Crosses on the Houses where they worship, so *Pope* and *Papists*.

6. *Bishop* and *Priest* do compel the People to maintain them, so *Pope* and *Papists*.

7. *Bishop* and *Priest* do exalt humane Learning above its place, so *Pope* and *Papists*.

8. *Bishop* and *Priest* do wear their several sorts of Caps, and other sorts of vain useless Garments, according to what Title they give themselves; so *Pope* and *Papists*.

9. *Bishop* and *Priest* would punish all that will not joyn with them in their Worship, so *Pope* and *Papists*.

10. *Bishop* and *Priest* are such Persecutors of others, that they cannot be equally yoked without *Pope* and *Papists*.

11. *Bishop* and *Priest* having not the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, cannot subsist without Law in their own Courts, carnal Weapons, or help of Magistrates; so *Pope* and *Papists*.

12. *Bishop* and *Priest* cannot live by the Gospel, which they have

have not, but by the Tythes, which they will have, while they can; so *Pope* ane *Papists*.

13. *Bishop* and *Priest* count all *Faction*, *Sedition*, *Heresie* and *Separation*, that separate from them, and cannot feed their Lusts and Pride, so *Pope* and *Papists*, that will not joyn with them in their Mass. *Bishop* and *Priest*, in what do you differ from the Pope and his Deputies? Had it not been a shorter work to shew in what you do differ, than in what you are one with them? Wherein doth your Worship and Discipline differ from the *Pope* and *Papists*?

14. *Bishop* and *Priest*, you may be joyned with *Pope* and *Papists* in your Bowings, Bendings, Stoopings and vain Gestures and Postures, Forms, Traditions, Customs, Fashions and Ceremonies, which do not at all concern the Worship of God, which is to be in the Spirit and in Truth, and not in the aforesaid vain things, or the like.

15. *Bishops*, we are not against the Name; for such a Bishop as is allowed by the Scriptures of Truth, we allow of, read 1 *Tim.* 3. but such you are not, but Persecutors of the Life and Godly Condition that they did live in, and you and your Families are more like proud *Morrice-dancers*, than modest civil orderly *Christians*: And seeing you and your Followers in a sad desperate Condition, I cannot chuse but in love acquaint you with it, and declare against it, that you may be left without excuse, and keep my Conscience clear towards God and you. And what I say in this case to you, I say to all that are in your Condition, *Repent*, *Repent*, *Repent* in time, before it be too late, and the Door of Mercy shut, and you kept out with the wicked World, which go the broad Way and wide Gate that leads to destruction, where many do go; for the narrow Way and strait Gate that leadeth to Salvation, where the little Flock hath and doth strive to enter in, you do not love, but speak evil of; for Covetousness, Pride, Malice and Selfishness cannot enter in there: These and the like are the burdens which hinder, and must be cast away, or else no entring in for such; so *Pope* and *Papists*.

16. Oh! how my Heart doth pity the People which by you Bishops and Priests are deceived; of such there was a Complaint, and of you there is a Complaint, 2 Cor. 4. 3, 4. *But if our Gospel*

be hid, it is hid in them that are lost; in whom the god of this World hath blinded the Minds of them which believe not, lest the Light of the glorious Gospel of Christ, who is the Image of God, should shine unto them. The Gospel, which is hid, is the Power of God, and the God of the World that doth hide it, is the Devil, and the means that the Devil hath to hide the Gospel, and to blind the Mind, is Sin; *Your Sins have separated you from God*, and your Sins do cause him to hide his face from you, and your Sins hinder good things to come unto you; *and he that committeth sin is of the Devil; and we know that we are of God, and the whole World lieth in Wickedness*, John 5. 19. And the holy men of God in all Ages did declare and cry against the Sins which you now live in; and they that can truly witness a godly Life now, do deny you, and cry against you: And as the Godly by the Ungodly formerly did suffer, even so it is now; so one with *Pope* and *Papists* in Persecution.

17. *Bishop* and *Priest* have Organs and Singing-Boys in their Worship, so *Pope* and *Papists*.

18. *Bishop* and *Priest* do take to themselves what belongs to *God*, to judge of Conscience in matter of Religion; so *Pope* and *Papists*.

19. *Bishop* and *Priest* are for Churching of Women, so *Pope* and *Papists*.

20. *Bishop* and *Priest* do idolize the Parish-house, where they meet to Worship, and call it a Church, and hold it to be a more holy Ground and virtuous Place than other Ground and Places, witness what a vain Meeting, Preaching, Blowing and Praying there was (the Service cannot be acceptable, where the end is not right) to consecrate and sanctifie the new builded Church (as they call it) at *Glaisbury* in *Radnorshire*, by *William Lucy*, Bishop of St *Davids* (so called) and his Hireling Priests (as it is generally reported) there was so much Idolatrous Practice, Ceremonies and unprofitable Worship there then, as if it had been by the Pope in *Rome*; for their old Church being on the Sandy Foundation, was undermined by the River *Wey*, which hath made a separation between the Priest and his Church, so that he nor his Parishioners cannot go to their Church, nor their dead Church to them; but the Gates of Hell, the Devil and all his Power cannot prevail against the true Living Church in God; but the

River

River *Wey* is too strong for the old House, falsly called a Church. The true Church from the false you may know, if you read and believe the Scriptures, *Mat.* 16. 18. & 18. 17. *Act* 2. 47. and 20. 28. *Ephes.* 5. 24, 25. *Col.* 1. 24. 1 *Tim.* 3. 15. compare what Christ and his Apostles did declare the Church to be, and what the Priests do call a Church, and you shall or may see great difference; and the cause of my Writing is, that you may come to be Members of the true Church, where Christ is the Head.

21. *Bishop* and *Priest* do pretend to keep Holy dayes in remembrance of some holy men that are dead these many hundred years ago; so *Pope* and *Papists*; for by the Pope they were set up.

22. *Bishop* and *Priest*, many of your Forms, Customs and Traditions are contrary to the Scriptures of Truth; so *Pope* and *Papists*.

23. *Bishop* and *Priest* do compel the Country in their Parishes to buy and keep them fine Linnen Cloth, as much as will make them a Garment to cover their black Clothes (but it will not cover their black ugly Sins) and they call it by the Name of a *Surplice*, that they wear during their common Service, and burying their dead, and Churching their Women (as they call it) Oh, the blindness of Popery!

24. Priests in our Country do go from house to house to Church Women, with their Sexton to carry their Book and Surplice, and to say *Amen*, and they will have Money for so doing; so (by report) do the Papists, their pretended holy Water.

25. *Bishop* and *Priest* do keep Courts to punish Offenders, and when they do appear, they must contract for a Sum of Money, and it must be such a sum, that every Member, according to what he paid for his place, must have such a Sum that he may live by it, and then the Offender shall have forgiveness of his Sins, and pardon under Hand and Seal: Lest I should mistake, and the *Papists* not be so bad as you in this thing, I shall not compare them with you.

26. *Bishop* and *Priest*, you and your Courts have been more troublesom and burdensom to some of us, the People, than all other Courts and Taxes that we have paid since your heavy Yoke and cruel Bondage came upon us, which makes us to feel the weight and burden of it in our Estates, and in our Consciences.

27.

27. Pope and *Bishop*, *Papist* and *Priest*, you are here (and may be more at large so) yoked together, that you cannot be separated while you continue in your Will-worship, and compelling Fellowship, and carnal Ordinances, and dry empty Forms, and forcing People to joyn with you whether they will or no, and your cruel Dealings with those that cannot for Conscience sake joyn with you in your Self-Worships, which do not profit Soul nor Body. I say, while you do use the same means, and live in the same Condition as Pope and Papists do, what difference is between you and them? And who will joyn in Worship with such a cruel merciless self-ended People, as many of you are, except it be some in a slavish Condition, out of fear, or some that make gain from your unchristian Wages, or some other by-ends, as it appeareth, and as we find by the fruit of your corrupt Trees, which you have been all this while planting and dressing; and while they do feed you, you are at peace with them, be they never so bad and wicked; for if you will tell them of one fault, they can tell you of another, if not of two; *so like Priest, like People*, as the Scripture doth declare; if you should deny this, will not your Parishioners confess it? Christ said, *When thou art converted, then strengthen thy Brethren.* From what is evil, and to what is good are you converted? except it be from a small Means and Wages to a greater, which is no Conversion, but Promotion: While you live in Covetousness, you cannot do the People any good; *a good Tree cannot bring forth evil Fruit, neither can a corrupt Tree bring forth good Fruit*, Mat. 7. 18. and in verse 15 *Beware of false Prophets, which come to you in Sheeps Clothing, but inwardly they are ravening Wolves.* V. 16. *Ye shall know them by their fruits, do men gather Grapes of Thorns, or Figs of Thistles?* Here you are plainly seen and known to be the false Prophets; your Fruit doth make you manifest to every honest single-hearted man. Are are not many of you as cruel as Woles, and your good fruits as hard to be had as Grapes of Thorns, or Figs of Thistles. Are is there any in the Nations like you, or to be compared to you in Cruelty and Oppression? And are not they blind, and want true Understanding, that cannot see, that you have the Marks that the false Prophets in all Ages had? witness the Scripture, from the beginning to the end, where it speaks of false Prophets;

you cannot hide your selves in this the day of the Lords Power, made manifest in and to his People; for this is the day that the Lord God takes up his *jewels*, and doth separate his People from among st you the *Beasts*, *Wolves*, *Thorns* and *Thistles*, and we are his *People*, and the *Sheep of his Pasture*; and we know his *living voice*, and the *dead voices* of you, who to him are strangers, we will not hear nor follow; for you cannot lead us but where you are, in the *dark Kingdom* of this *World*, but the *Lord*, who is our *living Shepherd*, he hath and doth lead us to his *Kingdom, which is not of this World*, as Christ said; and in his *Kingdom he doth feed his little flock*, and there by him they are *refreshed*, *nourished* and *preserved* out of your *cruel hands* and *corrupt food* that is to perish, and cannot feed nor serve your turn in time of need: And our *food*, our *rest*, *peace*, *joy*, *comfort*, *happiness*, *fellowship* and *well-being* is a *hidden Mystery* to you *Priests*; if not, you would not seek us to come to you back again, where you have been too long already, and are resolved in the Name of our God never to come back; *Go not to them, but let them come to you*, saith the Scriptures. Is there any reason that we should pay you *wages* while you do us no *service*, and we deny you and your *Service?* yet notwithstanding you would *reap* where you do not *sow*, and have the *wages* where another doth the *work*, and *feed* your *greedy Bellies* upon other mens *Rights* and *Labours*; & you make many *poor* in making your selves *rich*; and many do go *bare* and *fare hard* to maintain your *pride* and *fullness*. And thus you *persecute Gods heritage*, and are the *greatest Oppressors* and *Vexers* of the People as any this day in this Kingdom: And if he that had not the *Wedding Garment was cast into utter Darkness, where is wailing and gnashing of Teeth*, what will become of you that are clothed with the *Garment of unrighteous Gains?* If he that was among the *People of God*, and for them, and as to outward appearance, one of them, was thus dealt with, what will become of *you* that are against them and their Meetings, and hinder them, and break their Meetings? And if Christ did say to them that in his Members did not visit him in Prison, *Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting Fire, prepared for the Devil and his Angels*, what will he say to you that do cast him, in his Members, into Prison? seeing that Christ said so to them that were too short in their Duty towards his People, what will he say to you that are cruel and spiteful towards his People? read *Mat* 25.32. to the end, and you may see the *reward* of both the *godly* and *ungodly*, the *portion* of the *faithful* and *unfaithful*. And if the *five foolish Virgins* came too short, the door shut, and they kept out that were in *company* and *profession* with the *wise Virgins*, what will become of you that do not only *hate* the *company* and *profession* of the *godly*, but also set your selves to strive against them, that

they may not *trim their Lamps* and prepare themselves to make ready *to enter in with the Bridegroom*: And plainly this is your work, to hinder *the little flock* to meet and follow the *Lamb their leader*. *And if the Righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly & sinners appear?* 1 Pet. 4. 18. If those whom God hath separated from the *ungodly world*, and united them to himself, to witness for him, and against the *Sins of the World*, if they have nothing to spare, but *scarcely be saved*, Oh! where shall they appear that live in sin, and plead for sin, and say, *they must sin whilst they live in the earthly body*. No thanks to cease when you can sin no longer in the body. If you must live in *Sin* whilst you are on this side the Grave, when will you live in *Righteousness*, seeing the Scripture saith, *Know ye not, that to whom ye yield your selves Servants to obey, his Servants you are, to whom ye obey, whether of sin unto death, or of Obedience unto Righteousness?* Rom. 6. 16. *For the wages of sin is death*, v. 23. They that serve sin, or live in it, are Servants to the Devil, and *cannot serve two Masters*. And is not the Lord God, that made the Heavens and Earth and all things therein, stronger than the Devil to lead out of sin? for as God will not lead to sin, so the Devil will not lead to any thing that is really good; and many People are led by the Devil, and not by God who made them. And if they live and you dwell in sin, what good do you to the People for your *hire* and *wages*? They could live in sin, and keep that to maintain themselves that doth maintain you; and are not you the unprofitable Servants, while you and your followers do live in Sin? And are not you to receive your *wages* with the *unprofitable Servants* that did live in sin as you do? Was it not sin that did separate from God, and lead into the fall, and doth separate from God? And is it impossible to remove that which did separate from God? And must People still remain in the fall, and from God? And while you live in that which keepeth from God in the fall, how can you come out of the fall to God again? And can you obtain forgiveness of sin, while you live in sin? And must not sin be forsaken? *They that forsake their sin shall have mercy*, saith the Scripture; but do not you say to the People, *They have mercy, though they live in sin?* A false Doctrine, which proceeds from a dark unclean Spirit, and not from the Spirit of God.

Bishop and *Priest*, how can you but deny *Perfection in this life*, while you deny the effects of Christs coming (which doth perfect his work in his People) and are not his works to be done within, where the *Serpents head* is to be bruised? And can his head be bruised without Christ, the only means ordained of God to do it? and so his work in you is not yet done, but his *Enemies work* in you doth yet stand, which is *sin* and *uncleanness*, & this makes you to oppose the *work* of *Christ*, which is,

it, to bind the strong man, and to cast him out of possession, and to lay the Ax to the Root of the unfruitful Tree (which by God was never planted) and the Serpent and his seed, and all that doth belong to him turned out, root and branch, and all that belongs to the Enemy of God, by Christ, the higher Power, destroy'd. And then the *Image of God* wrought, and the *fruit of the Spirit* known and witnessed; as it is written, *And such were some of you but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the Name of the Lord Jesus; and by the Spirit of our God*, 1Cor.6.11. And they said, *Christ in us the hope of Glory; and know you not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except you be Reprobates?* 2Cor.13.5. Thus Jesus Christ hath and doth do his works in his People, whilst *unbelievers* do talk of his coming, and sin in them still remaining, which is the *work of the Devil*.

Bishop and *Priest*, Christ saith, *Learn of me*, and you say, *learn of us*, and them that do not, are prosecuted in your Courts, and cast into *Goal*, and *goods* taken from them. And Christ said, *Feed my Lambs*, Joh.21.15. *Feed ye the Church of God*, Acts 20.28. *Feed ye the flock of God*, 1Pet.5.2. Mind what Christ saith, *Feed my Lambs, my Church, my flock*. And in effect you say, *We will make you all feed us, or else we will have a suit in Law against you, and recover triple damage, and drive away your cattel or goods, or cast your Bodies to Prison until you pay us*. This we believe you will do, and you have done already: The People of God that had the largest measure of the Spirit of God, and of the *Virtue*, *Wisdom* and *Knowledge of God*, were *Servants* to the rest, and *good Examples*, and did exceed others in *meekness*, *mildness*, *lowliness*, and all manner of *humility*, according to the largeness of that of God, which they had received. And you, according to what of men you have received, are by them preferred and entituled, *Lords*, *Bishops*, *Masters*, *Priests*. So herein one with *Pope* and *Papists*, and also one with the *Heathen*, *exercising Lordship over the People* (contrary to Christ and his Disciples, who were all *Brethren*, and he their only *Master*, Mat 23.) and so bear sway and rule over the People, and compel them as Servants to you, or more like *slaves* than *servants*; for Servants may change their Masters, if they do not like them, but the People cannot change you, be you never so cruel and bad although they do complain, and deny you and your stolen ware out of other mens works, and not from the Spirit of God. Is it not a slavish condition to compel a People to what they know will not serve their turn, & to make them pay for that, altho' they do refuse it? If it were upon the account of worldly things, it would be the better borne; but it doth concern our *Souls Health* and *Salvation*, and *everlasting Happiness* and *Well-being*, *world without end*. And the Lord God whom we obey can deliver us out of our mercilesse hands; but if we should obey you

you cannot deliver us out of the just hand of God; therefore we little matter what you can or will do, while we *keep our Consciences void of offence towards God and men.* You are easily to be known; your *rising up* hath brought many down; You are *black without* and *dark within*; your making *thick* hath made many *thin*; those that do feed you, you cry *peace* to, and those that do refuse to follow you, are your Adversaries, be they never so good; so that we do plainly see, that you did not come for our *good*, but for our *goods*; not to *feed the flock*, but that the *flock may feed you*, as it is written, *Wo to the Shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves: should not the Shepherd feed the flock? ye eat the fat, and ye clothe you with the Wool; ye kill them that are fed, but you feed not the flock*, Ezek. 34.23. Here you may see, that you do the same *works* as the false Shepherds did before you, and we declare against you, as the godly did against them; *ye kill them that are feed*, (mind that) do not you seek to destroy that which is led by the Lord, and by him begotten, which is the *New-birth, wherein dwelleth Righteousness*; with it doth all things become *new*; therefore *if any man be in Christ, he is a New-Creature, old things are past away, behold, all things are become new*, 2 Cor. 5.17. Is there any thing in *you* become new? or is the corrupt Birth still alive, from which nothing that is good can proceed, and so you cannot witness your selves to be *new Creatures* in Christ, but in self and selfishness, and seek your selves more than Christ, and the good of the People: You run for (and after) the things of this World, and the *Kingdom of God* you cannot see, who do not witness the New-birth, as Christ said, *Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God*, Joh. 3.3. God said of your Fathers, who did as you do (*viz.* run and were not sent) *I have not sent these Prophets, yet they run; I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesie*, Jer. 23. People, let him that wisheth you well, desire you to read over this chapter in the fear of God, and consider of it, and lay it to heart, & you may plainly see, that those were the Fathers of the false Prophets now; and it may be now said to these, as it was then said to those in this chapter, and else-where. I say, let them be compared in the old and new Testament with the false Prophets and Hirelings then, and you may see these (where they were, doing what they did) *sowing Chaff instead of Wheat*, and *telling a Dream instead of preaching the living Word of God, that was with God in the beginning*, John 1. And this living Word came to the Prophets of the Lord, saying; and what the *Word of God* said and made known to them, that was written in the Scriptures by several of the Prophets; and *John* did witness the same *living Word*, which *Word* was *Christ*; and he was *clothed with a vesture dipt in Blood, and his Name is called the Word of God*, Rev. 19.13. and those whom God

did

did send, did direct the People to the same *Word of God*, and said, *The Word is nigh thee, even in thy heart & in thy mouth; that is the Word of Faith which we preach*, Rom. 10.8. Not only what *Paul* did preach, for he said what we preach. And they did direct where the People might find the *Word* in the Mouth & in the Heart; *all that do not direct the People to this living Word, have but a dream to tell them*, Jer. 23.28. Mind what a dream is: A man may think to be where he is not, and to do what he doth not, and to see what he doth not see; just so are all these *Dreamers*, who do not direct the People to Christ, and where to find them. But if ever these *Dreamers* will awake out of *sin* and *unrighteousness*, they will come to see, that all that which they have done is but as a *Dream*, and not *Truth*; and as there was in former Ages false Prophets, as well as true Prophets of the Lord, even so it is now. And the Lord God formerly made use of the meanest sort (in the account of the World) to confound the wise, so now, as it is written, *For ye see your calling, Brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble are called; but God hath chosen the foolish things of the World to confound the things that are mighty, and base things of the World, and things that that are despised, hath God chosen; yea, and things that are not, to bring to nought things that are*, 1 Cor. 1.26, 27, 28. As it was then, even so it is now, and the *worldly Wisdom* and its *learning*, and all that it can do, is too short to bring man into Rest & Peace with God; it is not the *learning* bought for Money, but the *free learning of Christ, that doth give People the saving knowledge*; therefore in vain is it for you to strive in your own *strength, wisdom* and its *learning*; come to Christ, that you may see that you are poor, that you may receive the Gospel, and that the *Eye which the god of the World hath blinded may be opened*, and you out of the *Devils Prison* may be set at liberty, to serve the living God: And this will be better for you, than to think you are what you are not, and deceive your selves and others; and better than to obtain *high Places* and *large Riches* in the world, which are uncertain, if lawfully obtained.

Bishop & *Priest*, this is not a time for you to think to hide your selves, for the Lord God doth raise his witness in his People, and he doth open their *understandings*, and they come to see what they did not see, and to love that which is *good*, and to hate the *evil* and declare against it, as *faithful Witnesses for our God*: And most of the People do now see your *ungodly, covetous, selfish Lives and Practices*, and how little good service you have done in the Country, and how troublesom & burdensom you have been, and how you have exalted your selves in Pride above measure; your *Coaches*, *Horses* and *vain Attendance* do witness it: The People will come more and more to see you, as their Understandings

will be opened, and they enlarged in the *knowledge of God*. And now there are many out of fear (of your *High-places*, *Threatnings* and *Courts*) that do hear and follow you, more than out of love to any good they receive from you: And as People do come into the true fear of God, the slavish fear will wear off from them, and you they will not follow; for *Pride* and *Self-exaltedness* will have a fall, and great will the fall of it be: And this is our Joy, that the Lord will reign, whose right it is, who is worthy to be *exalted*, *honoured*, *magnified*, *glorified*, *praised*, and forever *obey'd*. He, the *Lamb of God will have the Victory*, and it is in vain for you to strive against him who gave you *Breath*, and can take it from you when he will; *Stand in awe, and sin not*, and strive not against Christ in his *Temple*, in his People, as the Scripture saith, *Know ye not, that ye are the Temples of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?* 1 Cor. 3. 16. *He that defiles the Temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the Temple of God is holy, which Temple ye are*, v. 27. *What! know you not that your Bodies are the Temples of the holy Ghost*, ch. 6. 19. *Ye are the Temples of the living God, as God hath said*, 2 Cor. 6. 16. You know not what you do in hating those People whom God loveth, and dwelleth in. You strive to draw from God those that strive to draw you to God. You seek to destroy those that seek to save you from destruction. You would draw us from *good* to the *evil*, and we would draw you from the *evil* to the *good*. You would draw us from the *Teachings of the Grace of God*, to be taught by you, and we would draw you to the *teachings of the Spirit, that makes alive to God*. You would draw us from a *heavenly Condition* to the *earthly* where you are; and we would draw you from the *earthly* to the *heavenly*, where we are, through the mercy of our God. And thus you reward us *evil* for *good*, and we desire to do you *good* for *evil*. You hate in us what God loves, and we hate in you what God hates, and what ye ought to hate, which is *Sin*. You not believing in the *Infallible* and *Discerning Spirit of God*, cannot judge the things of God a right, but do as it is written; *We unto them that call evil good, and good evil, that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter*, Isa. 5. 20. You may here read yourselves, and see your condition; you do as in vers. 23. *take away the Righteousness of the Righteous from him*; and it is our desire to take away the *Unrighteousness* of the *Unrighteous* from you, and that all may come to know the Righteousness of Jesus Christ, and in him to witness their Souls Health and Salvation, and with us to partake of the *heavenly Enjoyments*, that in the *Treasure-House* of our *God* is to be enjoy'd; and thus we wish *that all men may come to the acknowledgment of the Tr*

that they may receive Forgiveness of their Sins, and be saved from the Wrath of God that cometh on the Children of Disobedience, Col. 3. 6. Rom. 1. 18. Eph. 2. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9. Here you may see that the portion of the *Disobedient* is the *Wrath of God*, and you must all be either *obedient* or *disobedient* to Christ. Oh! that you would mind it, consider it, truly weigh it, and lay it to heart, whether of these you are, that ye may not deceive your selves in thinking to be what you are not, and so come short of your expectation; for you must reap of what you sow, (and how can ye expect to sow one kind of Seed, and reap of another?) as is written, *Be not deceived, God is not mocked, for whatsoever a man soweth that he shall also reap; for he that soweth to the flesh, shall of the flesh reap Corruption; but he that soweth to the spirit, shall of the spirit reap Life everlasting*, Gal. 6. 7, 8. People, come to Christ the Light, that ye may see what Seed ye sow, and be no longer deceived by the *windy Doctrine* of ungodly men, who *draw nigh unto God with their Mouthes and with their Lips, but their Hearts are far from him, teaching for Doctrine the Traditions of men*; this is Scripture; and these are the Deceivers which the People are to draw from, and to come to the *Grace of God* to be taught, which was and is the Teacher of the Godly; *For the Grace of God that bringeth Salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us, that denying Ungodliness and worldly Lusts, we should live soberly, righteously and godly in this present world*, Tit. 2. 11, 12. This is the true Teacher, *the Grace of God*; and the true Messengers of Christ did and do direct the People to the Grace of God, which will not deceive them. And these that in truth do direct them to that which will not deceive, cannot be Deceivers; but those that do direct the People to any other thing or things, from the living Teacher, *that will not be removed into a corner, are Deceivers and deceived*, Isa. 30. 20, 21.

Bishop and *Priest*, the living God saith of Christ, *This is my beloved Son in whom I am well-pleased, hear ye him*: And you have that which ye have received of men, who have set you at work, and it doth well please you; and if we will not hear and pay you, you persecute and brand us with Names of Reproach, and will stir up the Magistrates against us; thus you have done, and this you are yet like to do. But this is the *Work* of *Christ*, who did and doth work *love*, *peace* and *good will towards men*, and *forgive Enemies*? or is it not the *Devil's work* to make *strife* and *ill will*, *destroy Goods*, *cast to Prison*, and *stir up the Magistrates* against a *peaceable People*? If this be not the *Devil's work*, whose work is it? for I am sure it is not of *God*, for the *righteous God* by his *Word* in his *People*, in all Ages did declare against those things (and the like) of your Practice. And as for those People formerly, which did the same work as now you do,

who

THE END.